

EMBASSY OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN HELSINKI

Press statement by The Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Helsinki on the U.S. Anti-Iranian Action at the United Nations ECOSOC to remove the Islamic Republic of Iran from the Commission on the Status of Women.

Helsinki, 16 December 2022

Recent hostile and political adventure of the United States in the UNECOSOC was another evidence of the U.S. hypocrisy towards Iranian people, particularly Iranian women and girls.

Iran has become a member of the UN Commission on the Status of Women with a high number of 43 votes among the 54 ECOSOC member states through a transparent and democratic election and with the support of the Asian-Pacific group.

Despite this, one member – a bullying member notorious for disobeying the UN Charter and international law- pursued its unlawful will to remove an elected member from the CSW, on the basis of recent development in Iran, and by means of fabricated and demonizing narrative that in turn sets a dangerous precedent and undermining the rule of law at the UN system.

It is not all unexpected that the US was taking such unlawful action against Iran given its long-standing hostility toward Iranian people, it would be exceedingly dangerous to the UN system's integrity.

Actually, the US and allies move on 14th December 2022 in the United Nations Economic and Social Council on removing Iran from the CSW contravenes the letter and spirit of the UN Charter, notably its basic notion of sovereign equality of states in membership with meaningful and equal participation in all multilateral fora, which has been recognized as the main pillar of multilateralism and the UN system.

It was intolerable for the US to witness strong, dynamic, self- sufficient, and smart Iranian women actively participating in economic, social and political life. It is crystal clear that with this action, the inalienable rights of Iranian women and girls of are violated.

The big question is that why the US and EU concerns over women's rights are surprisingly ignores the women rights and human rights within the closest allies of the US in the West Asia and US itself.

How can a country that prevents sending bandages to Iran's E.B (epidermolysis bullosa) patients, apply maximum pressure and impose UCMs and unjust unilateral sanctions even on pharmaceuticals, could claims the Iran's women rights?

Iran has engaged constructively in the Commission on the Status of Women as a member and non- member *before*, and will be genuinely committed to the rights and dignity of women and girls *as always*. Our efforts to promote and protect women's rights are driven by our rich culture and well-established Constitution.

The Iranian women and girls are most informed, dynamic, educated and capable in our region and the world, have always strived for their progress and will continue to strive in the same direction despite continued US chronical hypocrisy.

Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Helsinki